

IN THE CLAIMS

1 – 12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A process for producing a pearlescent white finish on a cured white primer surface of a substrate which process comprises spray coat applying an improved pearlescent white paint composition [[comprising]] consisting of a film-former and a solids material consisting of at least 90% w/w non-coated mica, [[and]] 4-7% w/w TiO₂; and 0.2-3.0% w/w particulate metallic [[Al]] aluminum, in, respectively, effective whitening and hiding amounts to the cured white primer surface of said substrate; and curing said composition on said substrate to provide a cured pearlescent white finish.

14. (original) A process as defined in claim 13 further comprising applying a clear coat to said cured finish and curing said clear coat.

15. (original) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said substrate is a vehicle body.

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said mica is selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic, coated or uncoated mica or white mica compound.

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (previously presented) A process as defined in claim 20 wherein said particulate metallic aluminum is coated with SiO_2 .
24. (cancelled)
25. (currently amended) A process as defined in claim 13 comprising $94.0 \pm 1\%$ w/w mica, $5.0 \pm 1\%$ w/w TiO_2 and 0.5 ± 0.3 w/w $[\text{Al}]$ aluminum.
26. (previously presented) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein film-former is selected from the resin group consisting of an acrylic, urethane, polyester and melamine/formaldehyde.
27. (previously presented) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said composition comprises a formulation base selected from the group consisting of an aqueous, solvent and lacquer base.
28. (previously presented) A process as defined in claim 26 or claim 27 wherein said composition comprises about 7-8% acrylic, about 1% urethane, about 6% polyester and about 5% melamine formaldehyde resins on a w/w basis.
29. (new) A process for producing a pearlescent white finish on a cured white primer surface of a substrate which process comprises spray coat applying an improved pearlescent white paint composition in a formulation base selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solvent and lacquer, the improved pearlescent white paint composition further consisting of a film-former and a solids material consisting of at least 90% w/w non-coated mica, 4-7% w/w TiO_2 ; and 0.2-3.0% w/w particulate metallic aluminum, in, respectively, effective hiding and whitening amounts to the cured white primer surface of said substrate; and curing said composition on said substrate to provide a cured pearlescent white finish.
30. (new) A process for producing a pearlescent white finish on a cured white primer surface of a substrate which process comprises spray coat applying, in a single white pearlescent layer on the cured white primer surface, an improved pearlescent white paint composition consisting of a film-former and a solids material consisting of at least 90% w/w non-coated mica, 4-7% w/w TiO_2 ; and 0.2-3.0% w/w particulate metallic aluminum, in, respectively, effective hiding and whitening

amounts; and curing said composition on said substrate to provide a cured pearlescent white finish.